
The J. Edward Berk Distinguished Lecturer

The J. Edward Berk Distinguished Lecturer, formerly known as the Stuart Lecturer, is a person prominent in gastroenterology or a related area. This individual is nominated by the President and the appointment is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees. This lectureship was established in recognition of the significant contributions made by J. Edward Berk, MD, MACG, to clinical gastroenterology during his long and distinguished clinical and academic career. A nationally and internationally renowned physician and teacher, Dr. Berk also served as ACG President from 1975-1976.

2017 Lecturer

John J. Vargo, II, MD, MPH, FACG

Are Our Patients Sleeping Safely and Soundly? The State of Endoscopic Procedural Sedation in 2017



John J. Vargo, MD, MPH, FACG, is currently the Chairman of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Cleveland Clinic. He also serves as Director of Enterprise Endoscopy Operations as well as Director of Endoscopic Research and Innovation in the Digestive Disease and Surgery Institute at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Vargo holds the Borra Family Endowed Chair in Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Rochester. After completing an internship and residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Health Science Center, Dr. Vargo completed fellowships in gastroenterology and hepatology at the Cleveland Clinic. A member of the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Cleveland Clinic since 1994, he has authored over 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Vargo's research interests include procedural sedation, physiologic monitoring, outcomes, and training. His endoscopic practice includes ERCP, EUS, treatment of Barrett's esophagus, advanced imaging techniques, stenting, and EMR and balloon enteroscopy. Dr. Vargo is currently a Fellow in the American College of Gastroenterology and has served on the College's Practice Parameters Committee, Research Committee and multisociety sedation task force.